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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takanori SHINOKI et al.

Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. NEW

Docket No. 2000-0465A

12-7-01

Filed April 11, 2000

SUPPORT MEMBER FOR SEMIPERMEABLE MEMBRANE [Corresponding to PCT/JP98/03594 Filed August 12, 1998]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 3,

line 2, delete "or 2".

Claim 4,

line 2, change "any of claims 1-3" to -- claim 1

Claim 7,

line 4, change "any of claims 1-4" to -- claim 1 --.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are effected to remove the multiple dependency of the claims to reduce the PTO filing fee and to eliminate the improper multiple dependencies.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Takanori SHINOKI et al.

By Wan Cheek, Jr.

Registration No. 33,367 Attorney for Applicants

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